

REGULAR MEETING

Agenda for
Wednesday, April 28, 2004
4:00 P.M. – Council Chamber Boardroom
and
5:30 P.M. - Art Pick Council Chambers
3900 Main Street, Riverside, CA

CASE REVIEW - 4:00 P.M.

Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Brewer, Gardner, Huerta, Pearcy, and Ward

Absent: Commissioners Corral, Davidson, Garcia, and Quinto

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Closed Session – Case Reviews

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957, the Commission adjourned to Closed Session at 4:22 p.m. to discuss issues pertaining to PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERSONNEL MATTERS.

O3-007 P3-03-028-002

The Commission recessed at 5:28 p.m. to reconvene in the Council Chambers at 4:54 p.m.

OPEN SESSION - 5:30 P.M.

The following proceedings have been digitally recorded. For copies, please call the CPRC office at (909) 826-5509.

Chairman Gardner led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Gardner asked Ms. Sherron to confirm commissioner attendance.

Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Brewer, Davidson, Gardner, Huerta (left at 6:29), Pearcy, and Ward

Absent: Commissioners Corral, Garcia, and Quinto

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Huerta moved to approve the minutes for the March regular meeting. Commissioner Brewer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Pearcy moved to approve the minutes for the April 14 case review meeting. Commissioner Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed with 5 ayes and 1 abstention.

Executive Director's Report & Comments

Mr. Williams advised the Commission that:

- Outreach is off to a good start and that he had attended five functions in one week
- 2003 Annual Report has had good comments with 311 having been distributed so far
- Outreach kick-off very positive; lots of opportunities for commissioners

Commissioner's Comments

Chairman Gardner said he attended two meetings; one was with the Riverside Police Officers' Association (RPOA) board meeting and the other was with the Riverside Coalition for Public Accountability (RCPA). He said that the tone of the RPOA was similar to that in the workshop. The RPOA feels that the Commission is redundant and that it is a waste of time and money, but they are willing in some circumstances to work with Commission. Chairman Gardner said he had hoped to make more progress with them than they did.

At the RCPA meeting, the Commission was offered a list of community groups for outreach.

Chairman Gardner said that he had tried to schedule a meeting with Greg Priamos, City Attorney, but Mr. Priamos said he would rather have written questions and respond back in writing. Chairman Gardner asked the commissioners if they want a meeting or if written questions would be sufficient.

After some discussion, the Commission decided to give the City Attorney a list of questions to address. Chairman Gardner asked staff to ask City Attorney to come to a meeting to respond to a specific set of questions and asked commissioners to have their questions to staff no later than next week (week ending May 7).

Commissioner Pearcy

- asked if there had been any follow-up from RPOA regarding the 85% figure regarding overturned arbitration cases. Both Mr. Williams and Chairman Gardner said there had been none. Commissioner Brewer suggested going to the City Attorney for the figures. Mr. Williams said the City Attorney said he couldn't give him that information.
- advised the commissioners that the Law Enforcement Appreciation dinner coming up, noting that he is on the steering committee.
- said he hasn't received any RPD manual updates, noting that the commissioners need to be kept up to date.

Public Comments

Philip Nava

Mr. Nava said he is in the process of filing a complaint. He said he wants to know the policy is regarding witness ID (labeling). He said he had received a police report that redacted witness names and that he needs to know which statements were made by which witnesses. He also expressed concern over what he feels is a conflict of interest regarding the City Attorney. He said that in trying to look out for interests of the city, the Police Department, and the Commission, the Commission is lowest on his list. He feels the Commission should have its own legal counsel.

Mary Shelton

Ms. Shelton said she has heard there are a high number of arbitrators that rule in favor of the officer. She said she was able to find only one case where all three bodies ruled against the officer and it was overturned in arbitration. She said she hopes the RPOA will come forward with the information on overturned cases and said to keep asking RPOA for the information. She said they should be happy to give the Commission the information.

Jim Martin

Mr. Martin said he was around when the RCPA was formed and was active. He said that a man from the University of California – San Bernardino (UCSB) did a study regarding police accountability. The study showed that most of the public is in favor of some sort of police oversight.

Establishment of a Standing Budget Committee

Chairman Gardner established a standing budget committee and appointed Commissioners Brewer, Corral, and Quinto as members. Commissioner Brewer will chair the committee.

Volne Stokes Officer-Involved Death Case

After some discussion, Chairman Gardner asked the commissioners to be ready to accept the public report at the May meeting. He also directed staff to ask the Chief if the Commission can get a copy of the RPD's critical incident review of this case. He also asked to have the CPRC investigator be prepared to make his own critical incident review of this case.

Committee Reports

A) Outreach Committee – Commissioner Pearcy, Chair Covered in Commissioner Comments

The Commission adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

PHOEBE SHERRON Sr. Office Specialist